Extending the school year

Student’s Name

Institution

Course Code

Date

# Abstract

The purpose of the study is to examine the correlations of time spend in school and academic performance. It intends to investigate whether the time spends at school an impact on the performance of students and therefore, to provide a framework for policymakers to modify and evaluate the policies which are being implemented for better performance of students. The aim of this study is to explore the connection between academic achievement and time and schooling days. It is to determine whether longer schooling days improve the performance of students. However, the research will be conducted using qualitative research method. The qualitative research method, the type of study where an in-depth interview is used to get the opinion of stakeholders. The descriptive design method will be used to analyze the data to ensure that the result of the study meet the specific objectives set are achieved.

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# Introduction

For the last decade, attention has been drawn on how much time American Students spend in school and its relationship to academic achievement. The school year and day length have been different depending on the localities. Researchers have also observed that the performance of schools is different and students who spent a lot of time in school perform better than the rest (Patall, Cooper, & Allen, 2010). This has made scholars question whether there are direct correlations between time spent in school and the academic performance of a student. It is also argued that the quality of time is what matters not the quantity of time and therefore, the students should have more time to study. Many researchers have concluded that with the changing technologies it would be important for students to have more time to study extended curriculum and therefore, there is a need o extend the academic year (Assaf, 2015). It has been argued American students should spend more hours in school as they prepared for the global economy.

Several proposals to extend the time students spend in school studying have been heard from various leaders, academicians, and other scholars. Former President Barack Obama made a proposal that students should spend more time in school during the summer. The proposal was grounded on the fact that American students should prepare to compete with the rest of the world in the 21st-century economy and this could be achieved without students learning several things in school. In order to cover a lot of things which are included in the new curriculum, schooling time must be extended to give students and teachers humble time to cover the entire curriculum within the academic year. The aim of this study is to explore the connection between academic achievement and time and schooling days. It is to determine whether longer schooling days improve the performance of students.

## Aim and objective of the study

The main aim and objective of the study are to investigate the relationship between the academic achievement of students and the hours of time taken in school. The other aims and objectives are to examine whether the extending school year is good for students and the kind of impact it would have on students and other education stakeholders.

## Research problem

Studies have indicated that students do not have enough time for studies and therefore, the entire new curriculum is not fully covered. Due to lack of enough time due to several breaks winter, summer and falls, the performance of students in most schools has been affected. There are also challenges associated with a short time for students. Recent studies have indicated that the old curriculum has been revised and there are several other courses and activities include in the curriculum. The expanded curriculum requires enough quality of time for teachers and students to cover the entire curriculum during the academic year. As stated by former President Barack Obama, “there are fewer hours for studies and students should spend summer holidays studies.” (Patall, Cooper, & Allen, 2010) .

## Significant of the study

This study is significant to education stakeholders, the government, educators, scholars, and students in policy formulation. It intends to examine how the time taken by students in school affects their performance. The study intends to bridge the gap by providing stakeholders with enough evidence which can be used to understand the impact of time in school hence stakeholders can use to affect policies to enhance the performance of students. Furthermore, the stakeholders can use the findings in this study to modify, evaluate and terminate some of the policies which are being applied. This study is therefore, important for all education stakeholders. In the page that follows different works of literature are used to certain the impact of time on academic achievement and to validate the objectives and aims of the study.

# Literature review

Researchers have shown different opinions regarding the impact of longer time school. some scholars have pointed out that a long time in school improves the academic performance of students and therefore, it is necessary for the time to spend in school to be extended. According to Assaf (2015), longer school hours provide students with enough time to capture an essential part of the curriculum which is required to be completed within a specific time. School hours are very specific and it is important for teachers and stakeholders to involve to utilize the time well to improve the performance of students. Therefore, the change in schooling time would be an ideal decision towards improving academic performance in the United States. As stated by Assaf (2015) extending time create an avenue to work deligent hence give students time to understand what they are being taught and this could result in a positive outcome for the students.

Aronson, Zimmerman, and Carlos (2015) stated that with the hope of raising students' performance, extending the academic year could be the best strategy. The study pointed out that more time in school is likely to give students more time to cover the entire curriculum within an academic year. This would allow students to improve in their areas of weakness. Aronson, Zimmerman, and Carlos pointed out that in early 1980; the National Commission on Education Excellence urged the government to look into two issues content and time. This means that the time students take in school plays an important role in their performance. It is also stated that if American students want to compete effectively globally, then it will have to focus on the time students spend schooling. The study also indicated that American students spend less time in school compared to other students in Asia and Europe and therefore, this affects their performance (Aronson, Zimmerman, & Carlos, 2015).

Orkin (2015) conducted a study on “the Effect of Lengthening the School Day on Children” concluded that students with longer school day perform better in school compared to students with less school day. This means that longer school days give the student to study and cover a lot of things in school compared and this leads to the high performance of students in the class. It also established a long time gives students more time to cover a lot of things in school and teachers also have a lot to cover. According to Orkin (2015) schools within longer hours complete curriculum within the time and this is an important factor for the performance of students. Orkin (2015) further pointed out that it is therefore, important to ensure that the government has enough facilities to support longer hours of studies to improve students' performance and academic achievement as well.

# Research methodology

The research will be conducted using qualitative research method. The qualitative research method, the type of study where an in-depth interview is used to get the opinion of stakeholders. The descriptive design method will be used to analyze the data to ensure that the result of the study meet the specific objectives set are achieved. In this case, the participants will be selected through email and telephone whereby questionnaire forms will be sent to the participant to fill in and return for depth analysis. In this case, participants will be interviewed to get their opinions. The participants will be all major stakeholders such as teachers, students, scholars and government officials. It will be conducted inclusively within the education sectors to ensure that major issues in education are captured appropriately. The result questionnaire forms will be analyzed and the result represented statistically for easy understanding.

# Conclusion

The study intends to focus on the relationship between the time and performance of students. It intends to investigate the performance and time spend in school to establish whether the time spends in school influence the performance of the student and general academic achievement of students and the institution as well. Several researchers have concluded that with the changing technologies it would be important for students to have more time to study extended curriculum and therefore, there is a need o extend the academic year. It is therefore, important to change school time by extending time students take at school to improve the academic performance of students.

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